claims 1-31 from the present application.

A2

32. A monoclonal antibody or fragments thereof capable of inhibiting the binding of cytokines IL-3, GM-CSF and IL-5 to the common receptor β_c, wherein the monoclonal antibody or fragments thereof binds to both the B'-C' loop and the F'-G' of domain 4 of the β_c subunit.

33. A monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line deposited as accession number ATCC HB-12525.

34. The hybridoma cell line ATCC HB-12525.

35. A method of identifying an inhibitor capable of competitively inhibiting the binding of BION-1 to the β_c subunit, the method including the steps of contacting BION-1 or fragment thereof with the β_c subunit as well as a candidate inhibitory compound,

and the step of measuring the degree of binding of BION-1 to the β_c subunit, and comparing it to the degree of binding in the absence of the candidate inhibitory compound.

36. A method of inhibiting the IL-5, IL-3 or GM-CSF mediated leukaemic cell proliferation by contacting the leukaemic cells with monoclonal antibody or fragments thereof capable of inhibiting the binding of cytokines IL-3, GM-CSF and IL-5 to the common receptor β_c, wherein the monoclonal antibody or fragments thereof binds to both the B'-C' loop and the F'-G' of domain 4 of the β_c subunit.

37. A method of inhibiting the IL-5, IL-3 or GM-CSF mediated leukaemic cell proliferation as in claim 36 wherein the monoclonal antibody or fragments thereof are BION-1 or fragments thereof.

A^2 cont.

38. A method of inhibiting IL-5, IL-3 or GM-CSF mediated oesinophil activation, oesinophil production or oesinophil survival, by contacting the oesinophils with monoclonal antibody or fragments thereof capable of inhibiting the binding of cytokines IL-3, GM-CSF and IL-5 to the common receptor β_c, wherein the monoclonal antibody or fragments thereof binds to both the B'-C' loop and the F'-G' of domain 4 of the β_c subunit.

39. A method of inhibiting IL-5, IL-3 or GM-CSF mediated oesinophil activation, oesinophil production or oesinophil survival, as in claim 38 wherein the monoclonal antibody or fragments thereof are BION-1 or fragments thereof.

REMARKS

After amendment, claims 32-39 are pending in the present application. Original claims 1-31 are cancelled and new claims 32-39 are presented. Support for the amendment may be found in the original specification and claims. New claim 33 is a modification of original claim 21, new claim 34 is a modification of original claim 23, and new claim 35 is a modification of original claim 24. No new matter has been added by way of the present invention. The specification has been amended to bring the application in conformance with the priority claim under §371 for PCT/AU99/00659 (8/13/1999).